

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please revise paragraph number [0002] to read as follows.

[0002]        This is a continuation of US Patent Application serial number 10/443,807, filed May 23, 2003 which is a continuation-in-part of US Patent Application serial number 10/163,345 filed June 7, 2002 (pending) which claims priority from US Provisional Patent Application serial number 60/296,770 filed on June 11, 2001; this also claims priority from US Provisional Patent Application serial number 60/463,736 filed April 18, 2003 and having the same title as the present application, all of these patent applications are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

Please revise paragraph number [0026] to read as follows.

[0026] The use of graphite in investment molds has been described in the art in such patents as U.S. Patent Nos. 3,241,200; 3,243,733; ~~3,265,574~~ 3,256,574; 3,266,106; 3,296,666 and 3,321,005 all to Lirones. Other prior art which show a carbonaceous mold surface utilizing graphite powders and finely divided inorganic powders called “stuccos” are Operhall, U.S. Patent No. 3,257,692; Zusman et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,485,288 and Morozov et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,389,743. These documents describe various ways of obtaining a carbonaceous mold surface by incorporating graphite powders and stuccos, various organic and inorganic binder systems such as colloidal silica, colloidal graphite, synthetic resin which are intended to reduce to carbon during burnout, and carbon coated refractory mold surfaces. These systems were observed to have the disadvantage of the necessity for eliminating oxygen during burnout, a limitation on the mold temperature and a titanium carbon reaction zone formed on the casting surface.